

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The invention provides a method and system capable of ensuring that each client can consistently communicate with one or more servers using delta caching. Building templates for objects at the server(s) is functionally separated from encoding objects for delivery to clients. One or more template-builders are logically separated from one or more delta-encoders. Each operates independently to perform its part of delta caching; template-builders build templates, while delta-encoders use those templates to encode objects for delta caching. Template-builders can also operate so that those clients not configured for explicit delta caching can perform implicit ("clientless") delta caching by reference to templates maintained at one or more template-builders. Delta-encoders can also operate so that the template information and the delta information for any object can be separately compressed or sent to clients. Delta-encoders can operate with template-builders using a client-server technique.